

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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SCHOOLS SUCCESSFUL IN CLOSING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Many Kentucky public schools have made significant progress to close achievement gaps between students of different genders, ethnic groups, income levels and special needs.

Senate Bill 168, passed in the 2002 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, resulted in a state law that requires all Kentucky public schools to address academic achievement gaps by examining disaggregated student data and setting goals to reduce disparities in achievement between populations of students.

Beginning in 2004, the Kentucky Department of Education developed Achievement Gap Teams to review yearly progress related to the law and identify schools whose data demonstrated the closing of achievement gaps in one or more of student populations. Those schools were selected for on-site visits during specific school years and recommended as statewide resources for other schools who may need assistance to close gaps.

SCHOOL YEAR	SCHOOL	DISTRICT
2005-06	James Bazzell Middle	Allen Co.
2004-05	Bardstown High	Bardstown Ind.
2008-09	Hiseville Elementary	Barren Co.
2008-09	Grandview Elementary	Bellevue Ind.
2005-06	Ockerman Elementary	Boone Co.
2006-07	Bourbon Central Elementary	Bourbon Co.
2008-09	North Middleton Elementary	Bourbon Co.
2008-09	Hardinsburg Elementary	Breckinridge Co.
2005-06	Calloway Co. High	Calloway Co.
2006-07	Southwest Calloway Elementary	Calloway Co.
2006-07	Prichard Elementary	Carter Co.
2005-06	Hacker Elementary	Clay Co.
2005-06	Manchester Elementary	Clay Co.
2006-07	South Elementary	Corbin Ind.
2005-06	Crittenden Co. Elementary	Crittenden Co.

(more)

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SCHOOL YEAR	SCHOOL	DISTRICT
2008-09	Toliver Elementary	Danville Ind.
2004-05	Highland Elementary	Daviess Co.
2006-07	Helmwood Heights Elementary	Elizabethtown Ind.
2006-07	Morningside Elementary	Elizabethtown Ind.
2005-06	Estill Springs Elementary	Estill Co.
2005-06	Jessie Clark Middle	Fayette Co.
2006-07	Morton Middle	Fayette Co.
2008-09	Northern Elementary	Fayette Co.
2006-07	James A. Duff Elementary	Floyd Co.
2006-07	Second Street Elementary	Frankfort Ind.
2008-09	Paint Lick Elementary	Garrard Co.
2006-07	Graves Co. Middle	Graves Co.
2006-07	Sedalia Elementary	Graves Co.
2008-09	Sedalia Elementary	Graves Co.
2008-09	Symsonia Elementary	Graves Co.
2004-05	Hancock Co. High	Hancock Co.
2006-07	Hancock Co. Middle	Hancock Co.
2005-06	East Hardin Middle	Hardin Co.
2006-07	A.B. Chandler Elementary	Henderson Co.
2006-07	Browning Springs Middle	Hopkins Co.
2006-07	Hanson Elementary	Hopkins Co.
2008-09	Hanson Elementary	Hopkins Co.
2004-05	James Madison Middle	Hopkins Co.
2005-06	Pride Avenue Elementary	Hopkins Co.
2008-09	West Broadway Elementary	Hopkins Co.
2005-06	West Hopkins Accelerated Elementary	Hopkins Co.
2004-05	Brandeis Elementary	Jefferson Co.
2006-07	Butler Traditional High	Jefferson Co.
2006-07	Coleridge Taylor Elementary	Jefferson Co.
2006-07	Dunn Elementary	Jefferson Co.
2006-07	duPont Manual High	Jefferson Co.
2006-07	Fairdale Elementary	Jefferson Co.
2006-07	Fern Creek Elementary	Jefferson Co.
2005-06	Johnson Traditional Middle	Jefferson Co.
2005-06	St. Matthews Elementary	Jefferson Co.
2005-06	Johnson Co. High	Johnson Co.
2005-06	Johnson Co. Middle	Johnson Co.
2004-05	Porter Elementary	Johnson Co.
2006-07	W.R. Castle Memorial Elementary	Johnson Co.
2008-09	Adairville Elementary	Logan Co.
2005-06	Auburn Elementary	Logan Co.
2008-09	Kirksville Elementary	Madison Co.
2008-09	Benton Middle	Marshall Co.
2006-07	Calvert City Elementary	Marshall Co.
2004-05	Earle D. Jones Elementary	Mason Co.
2004-05	Mason Co. High	Mason Co.
2004-05	Mason Co. Middle	Mason Co.
2006-07	Concord Elementary	McCracken Co.
2005-06	Reidland Middle	McCracken Co.
2006-07	Livermore Elementary	McLean Co.
2005-06	McLean Co. High	McLean Co.
2005-06	David Wilson Elementary	Meade Co.

(more)

SCHOOL YEAR	SCHOOL	DISTRICT
2006-07	Ekron Elementary	Meade Co.
2006-07	Middlesboro Intermediate	Middlesboro Ind.
2005-06	Ohio Co. High	Ohio Co.
2005-06	Ohio Co. Middle	Ohio Co.
2005-06	Buckner Elementary	Oldham Co.
2005-06	Owensboro Middle	Owensboro Ind.
2008-09	Buckhorn High	Perry Co.
2008-09	Belfry Middle	Pike Co.
2008-09	Elkhorn Elementary	Pike Co.
2006-07	Millard Middle	Pike Co.
2008-09	Millard Middle	Pike Co.
2006-07	Phelps Elementary	Pike Co.
2004-05	Phelps High	Pike Co.
2006-07	Robinson Creek Elementary	Pike Co.
2006-07	Shelby Valley High	Pike Co.
2008-09	Shopville Elementary	Pulaski Co.
2004-05	Brodhead Elementary	Rockcastle Co.
2006-07	Mt. Vernon Elementary	Rockcastle Co.
2008-09	Roundstone Elementary	Rockcastle Co.
2006-07	Jamestown Elementary	Russell Co.
2008-09	Russell Springs Elementary	Russell Co.
2005-06	Russell Middle	Russell Ind.
2005-06	Taylor Co. Middle	Taylor Co.
2006-07	Taylor Co. Middle	Taylor Co.
2008-09	Trigg Co. High	Trigg Co.
2006-07	Bristow Elementary	Warren Co.
2008-09	Oakland Elementary	Warren Co.
2005-06	Southside Elementary	Woodford Co.

The site visits sought answers to eight questions:

- How does this school ensure all students have access to a rigorous curriculum? What specific supports are in place to ensure academic success?
- How do you hold the school community (staff, councils, students, families) accountable for the academic achievement of your student populations within the achievement gap?
- How do you recognize and celebrate students who are high achievers, specifically African-Americans, students with disabilities, limited English proficient and students in poverty?
- How do you involve the community and school in conversations about achievement and culture?
- How do you develop a school culture that respects and celebrates differences (cultural, socioeconomic, academic and behavior)?
- How does the school community demonstrate high expectations for ALL students?
- What efforts are made to help all teachers become culturally competent/culturally responsive?
- How are data effectively used to improve student achievement?

(more)

Schools selected as statewide resources in the 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 school years met the following criteria:

- sustained evidence indicating whole school improvement for a minimum of six years (increase in academic index)
- made adequate yearly progress and was not in school improvement status under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act
- closed the achievement gap in one or more student populations in reading and/or mathematics by at least 10 points
- met or exceeded state average accountability indices for the 2005-06 school year (81.5 for elementary, 75.8 for middle, 74.9 for high)
- closed the gap in 60 percent of the content areas for the identified student population

With the changes in the Commonwealth Accountability System (CATS) for the 2006-07 school year, the process to identify achievement gap resource schools also changed. No schools were selected as resources in 2006-07, because data comparisons to prior years were not possible. The criteria to become a statewide resource school was modified, and in 2008-09, schools were selected based on the following:

- evidence indicating whole school improvement over a two-year period (increase in academic index)
- made adequate yearly progress and was not in school improvement status under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act
- closed the achievement gap in one or more student populations in reading and/or mathematics by at least four points
- met or exceeded state non-adjusted average accountability indices (92.5 for elementary, 86.8 for middle, 78.0 for high)
- closed the gap in 60 percent of the content areas for the identified student population

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